

## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
November 18, 2008

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**  
Bill Miskell  
Public Information Officer  
Kansas Department of Corrections  
(785) 291-3052

### **Kansas Department of Corrections to Terminate Contract for the Labette Women's Correctional Conservation Camp**

---

Kansas Secretary of Corrections Roger Werholtz today announced the termination of the contract with Labette County for the operation of the Labette Women's Correctional Conservation Camp (LWCCC) at Oswego effective January 1, 2009. The contract for operation of LWCCC requires a 30-day notice of termination.

"The decision to discontinue funding for the conservation camp for women is one of many difficult decisions which we have to make in response to the budget reductions we are currently facing," Werholtz said. "Our fundamental responsibility is to minimize the impact the budgetary decisions we are making will have on the public safety in Kansas."

LWCCC and the Labette Correctional Conservation Camp for men provide a sentencing alternative between community corrections intensive supervised probation and incarceration in a state correctional facility. LWCCC has a capacity for 32 women and an average daily population in FY 2009 of 27. The Department of Corrections can place up to 17 minimum custody women at the camp.

The correctional conservation camps are operated under contract with Labette County and funded by the Department of Corrections with state general fund revenues. Closing LWCCC on January 1, 2009 is expected to save the state approximately \$483,000 in the current fiscal year and \$1 million in FY 2010.

"We recognize eliminating this sentencing option will have an impact on community corrections agencies across the state and on the economy in Labette County," Werholtz said. "We will be working with all affected parties to minimize the impact of this action. We also anticipate announcing additional changes to a full range of departmental operations as those decisions are made in the near future in response to the current budget situation."

**-end-**